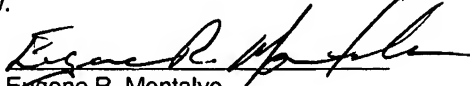


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on or before the date shown below.


Eugene R. Montalvo
Date: October 18, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)	
)	
Robert Irving McNeil, III et al.)	
)	
Serial No. 10/644,390)	Group Art Unit: 2863
)	
Filed August 20, 2003)	Examiner: Bryan Bui
)	
METHOD FOR MEASURING FLUID CHEMISTRY)	October 18, 2004
IN DRILLING AND PRODUCTION OPERATIONS)	
<hr/>		
Commissioner for Patents		
P.O. Box 1450		
Arlington, Virginia 22313-1450		

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 16 SEPTEMBER 2004

Dear Sir:

Attorney for Applicants in the above-captioned application hereby responds to the Office Action mailed 16 September 2004. At the time the Office Action issued, claims 1 – 47 were pending.